P.r Bodwell.
Simsbury.

Simsbury Ct. March 5th

18 3/4

Mr Amos A. Phelps
South Berwick
Maine

You really pay the old maids quite a compliment when you apply their name to your preceptor.— After such an accurate description I think I know pretty well how he looks. I fancy your school hours must be pleasant in the extreme. But I suppose when in company with your sweet organist you forget past scenes. I should not thought on once, that you was in love if you had not just reminded me of it.— Indeed I concluded that your thoughts were often in Vermont— Where is E now?

You inquire where is Tariffville,— It is in Granby Sir— Why I mailed my letter there was because I did not get it ready in season to mail it here.— I have not spoken with Norton since last Fall.— neither do I wish to,— Clough has written once but mark,— it was not to me.— but to some one, I know

Now comes a question I would answer cheerfully, if

— but I suppose when the best time comes I shall be married.

Upon this supposition I conclude to wait till the right one comes

But if he never finds me, nor I him, then I shall never, never, marry—

The good people here are all well Lucius B. has been teaching school in Northington— closed last Tuesday.— Elizabeth V. is in Simsa now— just the same creature.— sends her best respects to you

As it respects Religoin in this region I regret to say that it wears a gloomy aspect.— Nothing special prevails only a general stupor. Our situation is indeed alarming and we know it not.— or at least are not sensible.— How long O Lord will it be thus? Return and visit us with a reviving shower.— I trust you will not forget us in your intercessions.— Friends send their best respects.— Write soon. Yours truly P. Bodwell

I do indeed tremble for fear what may come. You well know that Mary loves most ardently. What then can be done? I durst not show her your letter, but have told her a part which affected her as I might have reasonably expected. I have never failed of telling her all the bad stories, that she may be upon her guard. I have one more of late which I mean to disclose when I see her. — It is reported that he is courting a widow in Granby. — that he sits with her two nights in succession, — I must confess this is driving business Dont you think so? I think you had better write some few lines to Mary. However I think you can act your own pleasure about it

Sabbath Eve 10 oclock — I have just returned from singing school — on my way home. — called to see Mary's Mother, — had some conversation with her about Ennis and M. She thinks they are about breaking off. — says she rejoices at it, — cannot feel reconciled with his proceedings. I think the sooner the better. — It is no credit to any young lady to keep his company.

I rejoice to hear of your pleasant situation especially in relation to the minister. I like his description much better than that of the preceptor. In your next please to write where Mr Campbell received his collegiate education, as I almost think I have seen the gentleman. If so I congratulate you in being thus happily placed near him. Just ask him if he was ever acquainted with Justin Marsh. If so tell him that he preached his first sermons last Sabbath in Mr McLean's pulpit —

Simsbury March 4th 1827

Cousin A.

By the last mail I was favored with your kind epistle which I hasten cheerfully to reply an answer. As I did not know the cause of a delay I began to think mine had not reached you. But this relieved my anxiety at once. Indeed I thought Brunswick was the place of your present residence, and I was not alone in thinking so. Your Mother has directed letters there and begins to feel quite anxious for a return.— She was in Sims= the day I received yours and said she had not heard anything for sometime.— Probably she has since.— Mary is with her now and has been some weeks. I reckon they take a little comfort together,— no one to molest or disturb them.— I believe however Ennis calls occasionally.

As it respects your informant heretofore mentioned, I should like to know who he is and what first directed you to write to him for information. From what you have written I gather the idea that he is Father to the very much injured girl. And has she a mother too? Then surely their hearts must have been wrung with anguish. I pity them and from my very soul wish the wretch who caused the bitter pang may be brought to see what he has done.— I hope this may be, before his eyes are closed in everlasting night so that he may make at least some acknowledgements of his vile ingrattitude.. O may no other one fall a prey to his lustful appetite.